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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Cary Lee Bates et al : Date: July 26, 2002 #4
Group Art Unit: 2755 : IBM Corporation
Examiner: Unknown : Intellectual Property Law
Serial No.: 09/247,502 : Dept. 917, Bldg. 006-1
Filed: February 10, 1999 : 3605 Highway 52 North
Title: BROWSER FOR USE IN ACCESSING : Rochester, Minnesota 55901
HYPERTEXT DOCUMENTS IN A
MULTI-USER COMPUTER ENVIRONMENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

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Technology Center 2100

Applicants request that the information listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be considered by the Office during the pendency of the above entitled application, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not constitute an admission that any information cited therein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b). In the interest of full and complete disclosure to the Office, some or all of the art cited herein may not be considered by Applicant(s) or the Undersigned to be material under the new standard of materiality defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b), enacted March 16, 1992, but may be material under the old standard of materiality defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a), last amended on November 28, 1988, or may merely be technical background which may be of interest to the Examiner. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

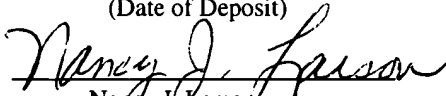
Serial No. 09/247,502
Docket No. RO998-190

The prior art being submitted was cited and applied by the German Patent Office against claims 1-25 of the German counterpart application. In particular, the Examiner stated that claims 1 and 25 are obvious in view of Blaxxun (Document 1) and US 5,764,908 (Document 2). Furthermore, the Examiner generally referred to "The ICQ Panels Generator" (Document 3) and argues that this document forms prior art to the present invention. With respect to the dependent claims 2 to 24 and 26 to 36, the Examiner stated (without going into detail) that they are not patentable in view of Documents 1 to 3. In particular, the features of claims 2 and 26 were known from Document 3; the features of claim 3 were known from Document 1; the features of claims 6 and 26 were known from Document 3; the features of claims 22, 23, 24 and 35 were known from Document 2.

To the best knowledge of the undersigned, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits in the present application. Accordingly no filing fee is required.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

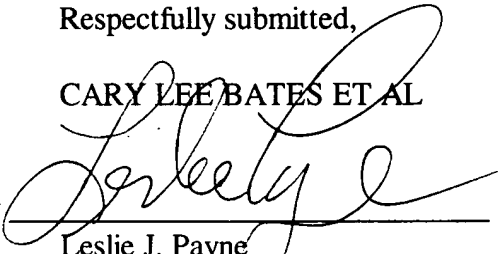
July 26, 2002
(Date of Deposit)


Nancy J. Larson

Respectfully submitted,

CARY LEE BATES ET AL

By


Leslie J. Payne
Attorney Reg. No. 26,378
IBM Corporation - Department 917
3605 Highway 52 North
Rochester, Minnesota 55901-7829
Telephone: 1-507-253-2555